COMMANDERS DIGEST

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DOD Cost Reduction Program Saves $914 Million in FY67

The annual Department of Defense Cost Reduction Program progress report sent to President Johnson shows a Fiscal Year 1967 savings of $914 million.

In his report to the President, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara noted that the department's initial five-year program produced savings of more than $14 billion. It was initiated in July 1962.

The report discloses that in addition to the $914 million in savings during the past year, additional savings of $590 million—for a total of $1.5 billion—will accrue from cost reduction actions through FY69.

In authorizing release of the report by DOD, President Johnson said, "I am particularly pleased with the alertness shown to the opportunities for cost reduction despite the pressure of combat operations."

The President asked Secretary McNamara to emphasize, "We are determined to provide our men with everything they need to accomplish their mission but we believe, and the report proves, that such an objective is not inconsistent with continued emphasis on the elimination of waste and inefficiency."

Noting that cost reduction goals during the five-year program were exceeded, Secretary McNamara announced that the program now will be established on a permanent basis throughout DOD.

The report shows contributions toward savings from all the Military Departments, and actions to consolidate, reduce or close 39 Defense installations.

Secretary McNamara said although the savings achieved during the initial five-year program are not likely to be duplicated during the succeeding five years, "I believe there are still significant opportunities for improvement, particularly in those activities which have been expanded so rapidly for the support of our military operations in Southeast Asia."

He noted: "Whenever the element of time becomes the overriding factor in our actions, economy and efficiency tend to be sacrificed in favor of speed. . . ."

The secretary explained that the task ahead "is to ferret out all these new sources of waste and inefficiency and tighten up our operations all along the line."

He said further savings of millions of dollars can be achieved by actions "which are completely consistent with a high degree of combat readiness."

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE—Maj. Gen. Eugene B. LeBailly (center) accepts the Distinguished Service Medal from Air Force Secretary Harold Brown. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell (right) also attended the ceremony. Gen. LeBailly was cited for exceptionally meritorious service as Director of Information from January 1964 to June 1967. He has now been assigned as Commander, 16th Air Force in Spain.

DOD Institutes Program to Qualify Some Medical Rejects for Enlistment

A permanent program to help several thousand men meet medical standards for enlistment in the armed service of their choice has been established by the Defense Department.

It is called the Medically Remedial Enlistment Program.

A pilot program began in February and 216 men have now been enlisted under its provisions. All services are participating.

The new program is limited to men with certain disqualifying medical conditions that can be corrected at military facilities within six weeks following enlistment.

Medical conditions acceptable under the program include cases requiring minor surgery, and specified degrees of overweight and underweight which can be corrected by physical conditioning and diet.

After treatment, recruits will be retained under medical control until certified as fully qualified to undergo the rigors of normal basic combat training.

Washington Memos

ARMY ENLISTED promotion quotas for July include 56,486 for temporary up-grade. Bulk is reflected in grades E-5 and E-4 while lesser amount is earmarked for E-8 and E-9. List of MOS which are not authorized for promotion was forwarded to major Army commanders along with promotion quota. Appointments in some frozen MOS have been authorized in monthly appointment quota letters.

NAVY'S SENIOR ENLISTED man has new title. He is now Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy. His old title was Senior Enlisted Advisor. Presently Master Chief Gunner's Mate Delbert Black holds position. His duties as advisor to Chief of Naval Personnel remain the same.

MIDDLE EAST TRAVEL restrictions to Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Morocco, Tunisia and Israel were lifted by Air Force in late June. All but essential military travel is still banned to the United Arab Republic (Egypt), Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Algeria, Libya, Yemen, Sudan and the Aden Protectorate.

ARMY MAJ. GEN. Frederic W. Boye Jr., will succeed Air Force Maj. Gen. Walter E. Arnold as Chief of Staff, Combined Military Planning Staff of Central Treaty Organization. He will assume new duties in September at CENTO headquarters in Ankara, Turkey.

SIXTY-FIVE DENTAL officers and 152 naval dental technicians are serving with Marines in Vietnam, according to officials at Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. In addition to dental treatment for Marines, personnel are also providing treatment for Vietnamese under Civic Action program, and some dental officers are training Vietnamese girls as dental assistants at medical school in Hue.

ARMY HAS INCREASED its order for five-ton tactical trucks under existing contracts with Kaiser Jeep Corp., Toledo, Ohio. A $12.5 million order was placed for 1,125 additional vehicles under contract awarded in May 1965, and an additional 1,238 vehicles, amounting to $12.4 million, were ordered under June 1966 contract.

PACIFIC FLEET SERVICE Force's Naval Support Activity, Da Nang, RVN, has topped Navy estimates of percentage of personnel who will extend their tour of duty beyond a year by 14 percent. As of June 15, 1,352 men out of more than 4,800 eligible for transfers have extended their duty tours to give command a percentage of 27 percent. According to Navy estimates, normal percentage for duty tour extension is 12 to 13 percent.

TWENTY-ONE APOLLO astronauts recently completed survival training at the Air Force's Southern Command Tropic Survival School, Albrook AFB, CZ.

INSTITUTE OF LAND Combat has been organized at Ft. Belvoir, Va. Part of the expansion of Army Combat Developments Command, ILC's mission is to design land combat system to meet threats posed by the world situation 20-25 years in the future. ILC will be manned by more than 240 military and civilian spaces.

PLEIKU AIR BASE has been named winner of Seventh Air Force's Civic Action Award for second straight quarter in fiscal 1967. Lt. Gen. William W. Momyer, 7th Air Force Commander, praised Vietnam-based Air Base, stating "to give time and effort to assist the needy and underprivileged is . . . a very worthy accomplishment and reflects credit upon your organization and this headquarters."

ARMY AVIATION Materiel Command has awarded a $13.7 million contract to Aircraft Division, Hughes Tool Co., Culver City, Calif., for production of 396 TH-55A primary helicopter trainers.

MILITARY ACADEMY'S Plebe Class will number 1068 for 1967-68 academic year. Class of 1971 is composed of cadets from all 50 states as well as seven foreign countries including Philippines, Thailand, Korea, Puerto Rico and Jamaica.

AIR FORCE Maj. Gen. David M. Jones, Commander, Air Force Systems Command's Eastern Test Range, Patrick AFB, Fla., has received NASA's Exceptional Service Medal. Gen. Jones was cited "for outstanding technical and management contributions to the Manned Space Flight Programs" of NASA, while serving as Deputy Associate Administrator and Acting Director, Apollo Applications.

FIRST MODIFIED T-39A Sabreliners being received by Air Force. Modification increases passenger seating from four to seven places. Gross take-off weight was boosted from 17,760 to 18,650 lbs. and improvements were made in cabin environment. Total of 132 of the North American Aviation small jet utility transports are to be modified.

ARMY AVIATION MATERIEL Command has awarded two contracts totaling $2.58 million to improve maintenance and support of Army aircraft programs. One contract, amounting to $1.08 million, was awarded to Missouri Research Laboratories, St. Charles, Mo., for production of air mobile shelters. Second contract, amounting to $1.49 million, was awarded to Gichner Mobile Systems Inc., Berkley Springs, W. Va., for production of air mobile transporters.

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Background for Commanders

PERSEVERING FOR PEACE

The role of the United Nations as a peacemaker and a peacekeeper has been under increasing scrutiny since the outbreak of the Middle East crisis. Earlier, questions were being asked about what the U.N. could do to help bring peace to Vietnam. What can we reasonably expect of the U.N.? What limitations must we accept? These questions were discussed recently by Arthur J. Goldberg, U.S. Representative to the U.N. Excerpts from his address are reprinted here.

There are international disputes that have been with the U.N. almost since its founding. Sometimes we manage to move forward—one difficult step at a time. At other times, like Alice in Wonderland, we have to run as fast as we can just to stay in the same place.

And sometimes, indeed, the situation gets worse—as when large-scale fighting broke out in Kashmir in 1965, shortly after I arrived at the U.N. When that happened, the Security Council took swift action to restore the cease-fire and bring about the withdrawal of armed forces by India and Pakistan. This step, even without any resolution of the basic issue, was regarded as a major achievement of the U.N.; and indeed it was.

Similarly, the U.N.'s peacekeeping operations—in the Middle East, in the Congo, in Cyprus—have effectively prevented the fires of war from spreading, from perhaps even involving the great powers. From the standpoint of the U.S. interest in a more stable and secure world, the U.N. by what it has done in these situations, as well as in Korea, has paid for itself many times over.

First Duty of U.N.

It is important that the U.N. should always have this capacity to intervene for peace and to deploy impartial international peace forces where the need arises. We are working on this very problem right now in the General Assembly. For the first duty of the U.N., as Churchill said long ago, is "not to get us to heaven but to keep us from going to the other place."

In addition, the U.N. is pledged to promote positive cooperation among nations. And in fact it does so. It is the main center for a tremendous range of international cooperative activities ranging from weather observation to education, health, population control, food, the welfare of children, and the delivery of mail.

Only last year the U.N. played a key part in our successful negotiation of the Outer Space Treaty. This treaty, which has now been approved by a unanimous vote of the U.S. Senate, is the basic charter for international action in the newly entered realm of outer space. It contains major arms control provisions. It provides for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space and for the safety of astronauts. Like the Antarctic Treaty and the partial test ban treaty, it is an important step toward a more constructive and less dangerous relationship between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. This treaty, too, is a major U.N. achievement—the most significant, I think, in the nearly two years since I came to my U.N. post.

Despite these achievements, I do not at all consider that the U.N. record is one with which we can be satisfied. But we would do well to remember that, as Adlai Stevenson pointed out, when the nations criticize the U.N. they are criticizing themselves. We, the sovereign member nations, are the United Nations. It has no special magic apart from what its members bring to it; and if that magic is less than it should be, truly "the fault lies not in our stars but in ourselves"—not just in the U.S. but in all the members.

This truth applies with particular emphasis . . . to the infinitely difficult and frustrating search for peace in Vietnam.

By rights Vietnam . . . ought also to be the main focus of peace efforts at the U.N. Indeed, I have sought to make it so from the outset of my service at the U.N. nearly two years ago. I doubt if a single day has gone by during that period when we have not had some conversation or some diplomatic probing with the Secretary General or with other members concerning Vietnam. U Thant has sought repeatedly, but unavailingly, to move toward a solution. Although we have not agreed with everything he has said on the subject, we have encouraged him—and we still encourage him—to pursue his efforts.

Also, at our initiative the Security Council put the matter on its agenda more than a year ago—but has taken no action on it. The inability of the Security Council to act must be ascribed not to the organization itself but primarily to certain powerful members which possess the veto power and which have been unwilling to see it act.

We do not cease to hope that the U.S.S.R. will see its own interest in working for a peaceful solution in Vietnam, whether through the U.N. or through the Geneva conference, of which the U.S.S.R. is co-chairman, or through any other channel. If their attitude, and that of Hanoi and Peking, should change, the U.N. might indeed play a major role—both in achieving a just peace in Vietnam and in helping to maintain and implement the peace once it is achieved. Thus, the fact that Vietnam remains on the Security Council's agenda provides, as I have often said before, a reference point which could be highly useful in the future.

In the meantime, the U.S. and other members continue at the United Nations and in many capitals of the world to pursue unrelentingly the search for a just peace.

AF Begins Supersonic SR-71 Training Flights

Air Force SR-71 reconnaissance aircraft began supersonic training flights over the United States July 1.

Some flights will be over many of the nation's largest cities, but they will not necessarily receive sonic booms during the overflights, the Department of Defense said.

The 2,000 mile-per-hour aircraft will operate at 80,000 feet and in most instances pass overhead unnoticed. The sonic boom level will be only about half that of SAC's supersonic B-58. Sonic booms, when they reach the ground, sound like distant thunder.

The booms will be heard when the aircraft descends to refuel at 30,000 feet, but not during the refueling operation. Sonic booms will also be created when the SR-71 climbs to cruising altitude after refueling.

During the training period, eight refueling areas over sparsely populated regions will be used.

The flights are necessary for crew training and testing and evaluating the aircraft's systems. The SR-71 crew must train on a variety of targets similar to those they would work against during wartime.

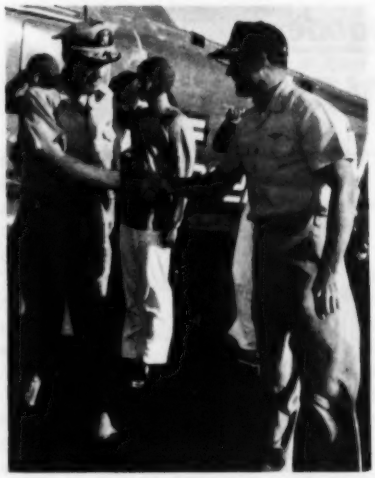
AF Seeks Volunteers For ROTC Professorships

The Air Force is looking for volunteers in the grade of colonel to fill positions as professors of aerospace studies at approximately 72 colleges and universities offering ROTC.

Officials said it is intended that colonels be assigned to these positions prior to the start of the 1968-69 academic year.

A letter from Hq., USAF to major commands urges immediate applications from colonels who are college graduates and have above average performance records.

Application must be made in accordance with Chapter 30, Air Force Manual 36-11 and processed through major commands to arrive at Hq., USAF by Aug. 31.



CARRIER VISITOR—RAdm. Marshall W. White (left), Commander Fleet Air Western Pacific, is greeted by RAdm. Vincent P. de Poix, Commander Carrier Division Seven, upon his arrival aboard the attack carrier USS Bon Homme Richard, operating on Yankee Station in the Gulf of Tonkin. The visit was part of Adm. White's tour to observe aircraft maintenance procedures on carriers operating in Vietnam waters.

Nuclear-Powered Carrier Returns from Combat Tour

The aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, the world's largest ship, sailed under the Golden Gate bridge July 6, ending a seven-month combat tour in the Tonkin Gulf.

It was the nuclear powered ship's second combat tour with the Seventh Fleet.

During combat operations over North Vietnam, pilots from the carrier's Attack Carrier Air Wing Nine flew more than 11,000 sorties and dropped more than 14,000 tons of ordnance.

Since leaving San Francisco last November, Enterprise steamed more than 70,000 miles.

While homeported at the Alameda Naval Air Station outside San Francisco, the crew of more than 3,000 will take annual leave and prepare the ship for summer training off the coast of California.

Site-Marking Transmitter Undergoes RVN Evaluation

A new site-marking radio transmitter, which emits a signal to permit ground forces to home in on air-dropped bundles, is presently being evaluated by an Army Concept Team in Vietnam.

The AN/GRT-13 transmitter was shipped to Vietnam in May for extensive field tests before possible adoption by the Army. If tests are successful, adoption as standard equipment is planned for Feb. 1968.

An Army spokesman said the Army Test and Evaluation Command is conducting simultaneous tests at Ft. Bragg, N.C. The final decision, however, for the adoption of the transmitter will be made from the Vietnam evaluation.

The transmitter weighs less than 20 pounds, and may be attached either to an airdropped bundle or its associated parachute. A timer activates the transmitter 30 to 60 seconds after the bundle leaves the aircraft.

A tone-modulated signal has sufficient strength to permit homing on the bundle from a distance of ½-mile through dense jungle growth.

Homing is accomplished by the use of a special homing antenna attached to standard VHF/FM radios.

Defense Dept. Modifies RVN Special Leave Policy

Policy for RVN special leave has been modified by DOD to permit leave to begin up to 60 days after normal rotation date under circumstances where individuals were unable to take leave due to operational commitments.

Previous policy stated leave had to be taken within 30 days after normal rotation date. Leave may still begin not more than 90 days before normal rotation date.

Current plans do not provide for any 60-day leaves for those serving extended tours in RVN.

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